

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been amended to overcome the objections and Section 101 rejections in accordance with the Office Action. Claims 11-16 and 23 are canceled. Claims 1-10 and 17-22 remain pending. Claims 1, 17 and 19 are the only independent claims. Each of these independent claims includes a limitation not disclosed by or made obvious in view of the prior art.

For example, each claim includes a limitation of "sending the starting sequence number to cause resetting of the receiver to the starting sequence number". Milliken does not concern itself with resetting a sequence number. Rather Milliken focuses entirely on "sequence number checking" by using a "sliding window". Milliken at col. 3, lines 50-56. Milliken does not propose any manner for a sender to reset a receiver's sequence number.

Similarly, Lu only describes different protocols for checking and either accepting or rejecting sequence numbers. Lu does not propose a way to use sequence numbers to cause a receiver to reset its sequence number.

The independent claims include other notable restrictions such as sending first and second sequence numbers "wherein the first and second sequence numbers have values such that a subsequently sent starting sequence number is guaranteed to be accepted regardless of the value of the unknown expected sequence number". These claims are limited to a sending system whereby two sequence numbers are specially selected to cause the third "starting sequence number" to be accepted by the receiver as the new sequence number.

Note, also, that the dependent claims recite specific values for word lengths (16) and ranges of values for the sequence numbers. These values are not arbitrary, obvious or trivial. When a sequence number is limited to 16 bits in high-speed transmission systems the chance of errors due to long dropouts or packet loss intervals is an event that must be corrected. The specific values that are proposed in the specification are an example of a preferred embodiment that provides statistically better recovery and resetting than other values might provide.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present claims are in condition for allowance and an early Notice of Allowance is earnestly sought. The undersigned may be

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contacted at the telephone number below at the Examiner's convenience if it would help in the prosecution of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

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